

REMARKS

Claims 13-15, 17-19, 21, 24, 25, 39-42, 44, 46-48 and 50-52 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 13, 17, 21, 40, 44, 47 and 50 are amended, and claims 16, 20, 22, 23, 43, 45 and 49 are canceled. No new matter is added by the above amendments. In particular, the features of objected-to claims 20, 43 and 49 have been incorporated into their corresponding independent claims 13, 40 and 47, and the remaining dependent claims have been amended as necessary in view of the amendments to the independent claims.

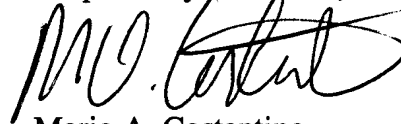
This Amendment should be entered after final rejection because it does not raise any new issues in that the features of objected-to dependent claims have been placed into their independent claims, and thus the application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant notes with appreciation the identification of allowable subject matter in claims 16, 17, 20-23, 43-45 and 49-51. As indicated above, the features of claims 20, 43 and 49 have been incorporated into their corresponding independent claims 13, 40 and 47. Accordingly, this application is in condition for allowance and all previous rejections are rendered moot.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/ccs

Date: April 24, 2007

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